

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 FEA-02 INT-08

TRSE-00 AGR-20 STR-08 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /205 W

----- 116668

R 250830Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2808

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PGOV PFOR AO

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF US INTERESTS IN ANGOLA

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. IN VIEW OF THE POTENTIAL FOR RAPID CHANGE IN ANGOLA'S POLITICAL STATUS, WITH INDEPENDENCE A REAL POSSIBILITY IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE, CONGEN BELIEVES IT USEFUL TO INDEX THE BASIC US INTERESTS IN ANGOLA.

2. IMMEDIATE INTERESTS (IN SPITE OF USG'S PASSIVE ATTITUDE IN PAST) ARE CHIEFLY ECONOMIC:

A. CONSERVATIVE (UNOFFICIAL) ESTIMATE OF US PRIVATE INVESTMENT IS BETWEEN 500-600 MILLION DOLLARS, VIRTUALLY ALL GULF OIL COMPANY.

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INVESTMENT MAY RISE DRAMATICALLY AS NEW AMERICAN OIL VENTURES

(TEXACO, ESSO, AMOCO, SUN AND ASSOCIATES) GET UNDERWAY. SOME SMALL INVESTMENTS (FEW MILLIONS EACH) HAVE BEEN MADE IN NON-FERROUS METALS, FISHMEAL PROCESSING, PAPER; SOME INTEREST HAS BEEN SHOWN IN INDUSTRIAL AGRICULTURE. A FEW POTENTIAL SMALL INVESTORS PROBABLY HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY SCARED OFF BY THE CURRENT UNSETTLED POLITICAL PICTURE.

B. US SHARE OF ANGOLAN IMPORTS FLUCTUATES FROM YEAR TO YEAR, AMOUNTING TO 10-15 PER CENT OF TOTAL AND USUALLY COMPETING FOR SECOND PLACE WITH FRG. ONE GOOD YEAR INVOLVING NEW PASSENGER JET SALES (E.G., TAAG'S INTEREST IN ACQUIRING BOEINGS) WOULD PUT US UP WITH FIRST-PLACE PORTUGAL (26 PERCENT). TOTAL VOLUME OF US SALES IN 1973 WAS 50 MILLION DOLLARS. WITH INDEPENDENCE PORTUGAL'S PREFERENTIAL COLONIAL ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD FALL AWAY, AND US SHOULD HAVE GOOD CHANCE TO CAPTURE FIRST PLACE.

C. US IS NOW ANGOLA'S PRIME MARKET (AHEAD OF PORTUGAL) WITH COFFEE REPRESENTING OVER 50 PER CENT AND OIL 30 PER CENT OF OUR TOTAL IMPORTS FROM ANGOLA IN 1973. VALUE OF ANGOLAN EXPORTS TO US IN 1973 WAS 215 MILLION DOLLARS. SKYROCKETING PRICE OF OIL WILL ENSURE US REMAINS ANGOLA'S PRIME CUSTOMER, BARRING FUTURE POLITICAL INTERFERENCE.

3. THERE IS NO NEED TO DWELL AT LENGTH ON ANGOLA'S PECULIAR GEOGRAPHIC IMPORTANCE IN RELATION TO NEIGHBORING BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES, SOUTH AFRICA'S SPHERE, AND INDIAN OCEAN TO MAKE POINT THAT STRATEGICALLY ANGOLA IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US.

4. OUR POLITICAL INTERESTS, ONCE COLONIAL ISSUE IS RESOLVED, DERIVE FROM FOREGOING FACTORS. OUR INTEREST IN A STABLE ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA, AND NEED FOR CONTINUED ACCESS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN NOT TO MENTION CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF ANGOLAN OIL, ARGUE FOR SEEKING TO ENSURE THAT INDEPENDENT ANGOLA ITSELF WILL BE POLITICALLY STABLE, AND ITS GOVERNMENT WELL DISPOSED TO US.

5. IN SEPTTEL TO FOLLOW WE SHALL HAZARD SOME SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO PROTECT THESE INTERESTS.  
BRIGGS

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